

[18 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

amenities at the 11 model stations selected in Andhra Pradesh, 5 stations viz. Hyderabad, Secunderabad, Tirupati, Vijaywada and Visakhapatnam were selected in the month of June, 1999 and various facilities like Standardised Signage, Computerisation of Complaints, National Train Enquiry System, Interactive Voice Response System have already been provided. Improvements in amenities like upgradation of Waiting Room, Enquiry Counter, Booking Counter, Retiring Rooms, etc. have also been undertaken. Out of the remaining 6 stations, 4 were selected at the end of January, 2000 and 2 in the month of May, 2000, and provision of similar upgraded passenger amenities at these stations is in progress.

Free education for girls upto graduation

***378. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have since prepared the scheme for free education for girls upto graduation level;

(b) if so, the modalities thereof;

(c) the assistance provided to States for implementation of the scheme; and

(d) the States which are not implementing the scheme, with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The proposed scheme 'National Programme for Women's Education' is at an advanced stage of preparation. The details of the scheme have not yet been finalized.

Allocation for Kumarghat-Agartala Rail Line

***379. SHRI KHAGEN DAS:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 753, given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 2000 and state what has been the year- wise fund allocation for Kumarghat-Agartala rail line project, since 1996?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE):

Year-wise allocation for Kumarghat-Agartala rail line project since 1996 is as under:

| Year | Allocation (Rs. in crores) |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1996-97 | 0.06 |
| 1997-98 | 5.56 |
| 1998-99 | 18.08 |
| 1999-2000 | 40.00 |
| Total | 63.70* |
| Allocation during 2000-01 | 40.00 |
| Grand Total | 103.70 |

*This figure is as given in the Budget 2000-01 under the column "outlay expected up to end of 1999-2000", and comprises the budget allocation of 1999-2000 and actual expenditure for the earlier years.

Recurrence of Malaria

*380. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Malaria cases have started rising in the recent years, after its eradication in the past;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to eradicate Malaria from the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. With the launching of Modified Plan of Operations (MPO) for control of Malaria since April, 1977, the incidence of the disease was brought down to 2.18 million cases in 1984 against 6.47 million cases recorded in 1976. Since then the incidence of Malaria has been contained between 2-3 million cases annually. There has been a declining trend in incidence of Malaria since 1997.